

**DERIVATIVE RULES OF  
TRANSCENDENTAL  
FUNCTIONS WITH THE  
CHAIN RULE**

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*Assume that the appropriate criteria  
have been met for  $f(u(x))$ , let  $u' = \frac{du}{dx}$   
and recall that the chain rule is*

$$\frac{d}{dx}(f(u)) = f'(u) \cdot u'$$

*and the chain rule combined with the power  
rule is*

$$\frac{d}{dx}(u^n) = nu^{n-1} \cdot u'$$

1. EXPONENTIAL & LOGARITHMIC  
FUNCTIONS

- (1)  $\frac{d}{dx}(e^u) = u'e^u$
- (2)  $\frac{d}{dx}(a^u) = u'a^u \ln a$
- (3)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\ln|u|) = \frac{u'}{u}$
- (4)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\log_a u) = \frac{u'}{u \ln a}$

2. TRIGONOMETRIC FUNCTIONS

- (1)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\sin u) = u' \cos u$
- (2)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\cos u) = -u' \sin u$
- (3)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\tan u) = u' \sec^2 u$

- (4)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\csc u) = -u' \csc u \cot u$
- (5)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\sec u) = u' \sec u \tan u$
- (6)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\cot u) = -u' \csc^2 u$

3. INVERSE TRIGONOMETRIC  
FUNCTIONS

- (1)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\sin^{-1} u) = \frac{u'}{\sqrt{1-u^2}}$
- (2)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\cos^{-1} u) = -\frac{u'}{\sqrt{1-u^2}}$
- (3)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\tan^{-1} u) = \frac{u'}{1+u^2}$
- (4)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\csc^{-1} u) = -\frac{u'}{u\sqrt{u^2-1}}$
- (5)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\sec^{-1} u) = \frac{u'}{u\sqrt{u^2-1}}$
- (6)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\cot^{-1} u) = -\frac{u'}{1+u^2}$

4. HYPERBOLIC FUNCTIONS

- (1)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\sinh u) = u' \cosh u$
- (2)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\cosh u) = u' \sinh u$
- (3)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\tanh u) = u' \operatorname{sech}^2 u$
- (4)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\operatorname{csch} u) = -u' \operatorname{csch} u \coth u$
- (5)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\operatorname{sech} u) = -u' \operatorname{sech} u \tanh u$
- (6)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\operatorname{coth} u) = -u' \operatorname{csch}^2 u$

5. INVERSE HYPERBOLIC FUNCTIONS

- (1)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\sinh^{-1} u) = \frac{u'}{\sqrt{1+u^2}}$
- (2)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\cosh^{-1} u) = \frac{u'}{\sqrt{u^2-1}}$
- (3)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\tanh^{-1} u) = \frac{u'}{1-u^2}$
- (4)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\operatorname{csch}^{-1} u) = -\frac{u'}{|u|\sqrt{u^2+1}}$
- (5)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\operatorname{sech}^{-1} u) = -\frac{u'}{u\sqrt{1-u^2}}$
- (6)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\operatorname{coth}^{-1} u) = \frac{u'}{1-u^2}$